TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION OF 1102.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

Thursday, the 28th April, 1927/15th Medam, 1102.

The Council met again at eleven-thirty of the clock M. E. Watts Esq., B. A. Barrister-at-law, Dewan, presiding. All except the following members were present: Mr. N. V. Joseph; Mrs. M. Poonen Lukose; Mr. T. J. Matthew and Mr. W. H. Pitt.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Removal of the Koran from Law Courts.

196. **MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any representation from the Mahomedans regarding the necessity for removing the Koran from the law courts and other public offices; and

(*b*) if so, what action they have taken on those representations?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government understand that those who have conscientious objection to swear by the Koran are not compelled to do so. In the last session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, the Government informed the members who made representations on the subject that they would consider the question of removing the Koran from the law courts if it was found that no Muslim called for the Koran in courts for the next three years and that, in the meantime, instructions would be issued to have the books carefully locked up in boxes so that nobody would have access to them.

Recruitment of Munsiffs from the High Court and the District Court Establishment.

197. **MR. PAUL DANIEL** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement, by castes, of Munsiffs recruited from the establishments of the High Court and of the District Courts from Kumbham 1092 to the beginning of Tulam 1102?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A statement * containing the required information is laid on the table.

Recruitment of Munsiffs from the Bar.

198. **MR. PAUL DANIEL** (*Nominated*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any Indian Christian of South Travancore has been drafted as a Munsiff from the Bar since Chingam 1085?

* *Vide* Appendix I—Page 609.

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